

To John Bruce

8 Nov 40

My dear Sir

No sooner said than done.  
I have taken you (as you meant) at  
your word, and I have ~~added~~ added  
your name, as Editor, to the Collection  
of Shakespeare Documents. It was very  
kind of you to make the offer & it is  
exactly what I wished. I hope it is what  
you wished also.

*William John Thoms 1803-88 antiquary*  
Many thanks for the title  
of W Thoms's proposed work which  
will be highly interesting. I have put  
it 7<sup>th</sup> in the list, in order not to disturb  
the previous arrangement (which many  
had seen) too much. I am afraid that



your suggestion about Mr Thoms & the vacancy in the Council cannot be followed at present - merely for this reason: when Mr Anzot first asked the Revd H. H. Milman (Oxford Prof of Poetry) to join the Society he told him that he was sorry there was no vacancy on the Council. Since then, Mr Hunter has retired, and Anzot, in a note to me last night, states that he had mentioned the vacancy to Mr Milman, and had asked him (supposing the Council approved) to fill the vacancy. There is otherwise every reason for wishing Mr Milman to occupy that post & he intimated that he should have no objection.

Thus therefore the matter stands. Do you think that Mr Thoms would consent to be an Auditor & so come in next year or sooner if another vacancy occurred? He merits every consideration from every body, but especially from me. If he would not object to be



one of the three Auditors, I think Mr Aug-  
ot would propose it & then the motion  
would be adopted at once.

Thank you for the two names.  
I have inserted them in their places.

I am sorry that we shall  
not have your help on Tuesday & wish  
you a pleasant trip to Brighton. This  
perhaps will reach you before you  
start. I am

My dear Sir

Yrs very sincerely

J. Payne Collier

24 Drompton Sq.

Nov. 2<sup>d</sup> 1840.



